

REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action of April 22, 2010. Claims 30-41 are pending in the application. Applicant gratefully acknowledges the indication that this application contains allowable subject matter. Specifically, the Examiner kindly indicated on page 3 of the Office Action that claims 30-41 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejections under the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112. The claims are amended as discussed below. No additional or new subject matter is added to the application by this Amendment.

It is noted that the present application claims a “system” comprising multiple elements (e.g., one or more tanks, a bath tub, a washing machine, pipes, valves, etc.).

Publication requested by Examiner

At the top of page 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner requested a copy of pages 593-599 of the publication: Ballai *et al.*, “Water Supply, Canalization, Gas Supply of Buildings,” published by Műszaki Könyvkiadó, Budapest, 1977. The Ballai et al. publication is discussed in the second paragraph on page 1 of the specification. In response to the Examiner’s request, Applicants’ enclose herewith a copy of the original Hungarian language version of the publication, along with a translation into the English language thereof.

Claims 39-41

Allowable claims 39-41 are amended – ***without any change in their scope*** – to be in independent form.

A rejection of claims 39-41 under the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112 stated that “Since the independent claims already includes one or more tanks and a washing machine, it is unclear if the one or more tanks and a washing machine in the preambles of each of claims 39-41 are additional elements beyond that of the independent claim.” Since claims 39-41 are now themselves independent, this aspect of the rejection under the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112 no longer applies.

The other rejection of claims 39-41 under the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112 contended that claims 39-41, “which add additional elements” beyond those enumerated in independent claim 30 from which they formerly depended, are indefinite. Inasmuch as claims 39-41 are now themselves independent, this aspect of the rejection under the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112 likewise no longer applies.

Claims 39-41 are thus allowable, having been amended to overcome the rejections under the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112.

Independent claim 30

Claim 30 is amended to recite “A greywater recycling system, for the economical flushing of toilets, comprising one or more tanks, a bath tub, a washing machine provided with a primary water pump, a water supply pipe, a greywater pipe, a flushing conduit, a flushing valve, and in at least one of the one or more tanks a floating ball, wherein the floating ball is fixed by means of a pivoted support arm to a side wall of the tank, allowing it to swing in vertical plane, a greywater column is located above the floating ball, and an actuating shaft is fixed onto the floating ball, wherein the actuating shaft passing through the greywater column above the floating ball is connected to a clean water fill valve of the water supply pipe.”

The only rejection of claim 30 under the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112 had to do with allegedly unclear antecedent basis for the language “the tank” in the clause “in the tank a floating ball.” Claim 30 has now been amended to recite in relevant part “in at least one of the one or more tanks a floating ball,” thereby obviating the rejection.

Dependent claims 31-38

A rejection of claim 35 under the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112 cites lack of antecedent basis for four specific recitations in the claim, each of which employed the definite article (“the”). Each of the four recitations in question in claim 35 has been amended to employ the indefinite article (“a”), so that this aspect of the rejection under the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112 no longer applies.

A rejection of claim 36 under the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112 cites lack of antecedent basis for the recitation “the outlet” in the claim. That recitation has been amended in claim 36 to employ the indefinite article (“an”), so that this aspect of the rejection under the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112 no longer applies.

Claims 31-38 were rejected under the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112 on the basis that claims 31-38 “add additional elements” beyond those enumerated in independent claim 30 from which they depend, claim 30 having recited the terminology “consists of” between its preamble and its enumeration of features. It is clear from the overall context of Applicant’s disclosure – and from claims 31-38 themselves, which allegedly go beyond the enumerated features – that Applicant regards as his invention “A greywater recycling system, for the economical flushing of toilets, comprising one or more tanks, a bath tub, a washing machine provided with a primary water pump, a water supply pipe, a greywater pipe, a flushing conduit, a flushing valve, and in at least one of the one or more tanks a floating ball, wherein the floating ball is fixed by means of a pivoted support arm to a side wall of the tank, allowing it to swing in vertical plane, a greywater column is located above the floating ball, and an actuating shaft is fixed onto the floating ball, wherein the actuating shaft passing through the greywater column above the floating ball is connected to a clean water fill valve of the water supply pipe.” Accordingly, since the terminology “consists of” has now been clarified to “comprises,” this aspect of the rejection under the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112 likewise no longer applies.

Claims 30-38 as amended

As explained above, claims 30-38 are now allowable, claims 30, 35, and 36 having been amended to overcome the rejections under the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112.

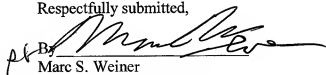
Contact information

Should there be any issues that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Richard Gallagher (Reg. No. 28,781) at the telephone number of the undersigned below.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.14; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: October 22, 2010

Respectfully submitted,

ps By 
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